

FIND BOMB PLANT IN CENTER OF DUBLIN

MUST RAISE 4 BILLIONS OF DOLLARS

Houston Recommends Reduced Total Instead of Raising Taxes.

BY DAVID LAWRENCE. (Special to The Argus.) Washington, D. C., Dec. 11.—Secretary Houston has decided to ignore the attack upon him by Representative Claude Kitchin, Democrat of North Carolina, who thinks the tax plans announced by the treasury department are too easy on the big corporations. There's a suspicion in the treasury circles that Mr. Kitchin, who boasted when the present tax laws were considered that he voted for them "with his eyes shut," also failed to read the report of the secretary of the treasury. For the wall that is coming in from the big corporations is quite the contrary—they insist Mr. Houston is too hard on them.

The secretary of the treasury, who is not a politician and cares much less about party politics than any man in the government, is in the same position as is the average neutral who used to be called pro-German by the British and pro-British by the Germans. So the most that can be gotten out of the treasury department in reply to the agitation about the proposed tax revision is a suggestion that the report be carefully read.

Instead of proposing an increase in taxes, Mr. Houston insists that he has recommended a reduction in the total amount that the American people should pay. For instance, the people paid an aggregate of six billions the year before last and something over five billions last year. Now they are asked to pay in the neighborhood of four billions.

The secretary of the treasury proceeded on the theory that on account of the slump in business conditions there wouldn't be enough money available for the government through the excess profits taxes. But he didn't suggest that the excess profits tax be repealed and nothing put in their place.

Mr. Houston proposes that the substitute taxes shall place a uniform burden on all classes of business, namely that corporations alone shall not be taxed but that partnerships, sole proprietors and other concerns that are not legally incorporated shall participate in the tax program so that the amount taken from business as a whole shall be approximately the same as before.

As for the consumption tax, Mr. Houston points out that we already have taxes on wearing apparel, soft drinks and other articles consumed in every day life. His recommendations are that some of them be abolished and certain others taxed more.

The point is that if congress accepts the proposed budget of \$4,000,000, the painful fact is that existing tax laws may not be sufficient in view of business conditions to yield that sum even though the same laws have in the past yielded five and six billions of dollars in two different years. So Mr. Houston felt it to be his duty to list all the various ways by which revenue could be raised.

**Interest Complaint.**

The fact that complaint has come from some of the interests which would be affected by some of these suggestions is the inevitable result of mentioning them. Nobody wants

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THINK PRESENT PRICE DECLINES WILL CONTINUE

Foreign Trade Corporation Discusses Important Measures.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—(By United Press.)—Belief that the present price declines will continue indefinitely was indicated by delegates attending the foreign trade financing conference here today. The conference was called to discuss plans providing for formation of a \$100,000,000 foreign trade corporation to maintain and stimulate America's foreign trade.

Former Secretary of Commerce Redfield declared the present low prices were due to the backing up of our export trade.

The result, he said, was an oversupply which forced prices down and caused enormous losses to producers.

Redfield declared that when the proposed corporation starts to functioning it will eventually halt the decline and steady America's foreign trade.

"It will particularly benefit our Latin-American trade," he said.

The conference was called to order by John S. Drum, San Francisco, president of the American Bankers' association.

He was followed by John McHugh of the Mechanics & Metals National bank of New York, who sounded the keynote speech.

McHugh declared an emergency had arisen which justified establishment of the proposed corporation.

During the war and for a year and a half after the armistice, he said, the great wave of prosperity which swept the country sent prices higher.

"Spending at home was generous and unstinted," he said. "Other nations bought our goods as never before."

Since, however, McHugh said, conditions have changed.

**Properly Steps.**

"Our extraordinary prosperity has stopped," he said. "Factories and mills have shortened their hours of work; many even have closed down."

"Goods prepared for export have backed up all our wharves, owing to lack of means to finance their shipments and our markets are glutted in consequence. Yet the irony of it all is that the outside world could use all the surplus we might spare, and Europe is still calling urgently for our goods and for our aid."

McHugh elaborated on the plan for the establishment of the proposed corporation.

It would, he said, assume the foreign trade obligations to enable foreign buyers to absorb this country's surplus. Then the corporation, he said, would issue debentures on the foreign obligations.

That the backing up of America's foreign trade has cost the country \$5,000,000,000 was the statement of George S. Murphy, banker of Manhattan, Kan.

"It has cost the state of Kansas alone approximately \$440,000,000 between July 1 and Dec. 1 of this year," he said.

Of this, the loss in wheat represented \$131,000,000 alone, Murphy estimated.

"If this corporation had been in existence we would have saved at least half of this," he said.

Senator Walter E. Edge of New Jersey, author of the law which authorizes the organization of the proposed corporation, urged revival of the war finance corporation.

"But it must be distinctly specified that its help is to be open to all and not to be confined to the benefit of a select circle," he said.

**Separate Corporations.**

Edge particularly favored establishment of separate finance corporations, such as is being organized by southern bankers to promote a market for cotton.

"There is no reason why the farmers and all others should not pursue the same course," he said.

Then, if any of these groups is unable to handle its export trade, it can turn to an organization such as is proposed here, and if it be shown that this is not equal to the aggregate of such tasks it may be advisable to consider reasonable, legitimate government help of a temporary nature."

Hope that the proposition of southern bankers, providing for the financing of foreign cotton trade by establishment of a corporation at New Orleans, would be combined with the proposition under consideration here, was expressed by delegates.

Julian Hill, banker of Richmond, Va., said he had until today to make his answer to the southern bankers on the request that Virginia bankers join in their proposition, was expected to bring the matter up at the conference.

The conference's first session was short. After listening to speeches by Drum, McHugh, Edge and a few others, four committees were appointed to consider various angles of the proposed corporation. They will report later.

**REVENUE HEARING.**

Washington, Dec. 11.—(United Press.)—Hearings on revenue revisions will be started next Monday before the house ways and means committee, Chairman Fordney announced today.

Dr. Thomas S. Adams, treasury tax expert, will appear to explain the recommendations of Secretary of the Treasury Houston for increased taxes.

WAR PALS OF U. S. PLAY FREEZEOUT

International Game in Which America Occupies Post of 'Goat.'

Washington, Dec. 11.—(United Press.)—Congress is becoming disturbed about the game of international "freezeout" in which the United States seems to many legislators to occupy the position of victim.

There is a growing disposition among many legislators to regard as imperative the speedy resumption of peaceful relations with the central powers in Europe as the most effective way of beating this game. Some members of the house and senate who have discussed this question intend to urge President-elect Harding to initiate separate peace negotiations and commercial treaties with Germany and Austria, as soon as he takes office.

A leading member of the senate foreign relations committee, who consented to discuss the general situation today on condition that he be not named, said that the revelations to the committee yesterday by Norman Davis, acting secretary of state, regarding the disposition of former German cables threw much light on the efforts of some war time associates of the United States to take advantage of this country now.

He summarized the "plays" thus far made in the "freezeout" game as follows:

Monopoly of the former German cables to the exclusion of the United States.

Barring of Americans from natural resources, coal, oil and minerals in other parts of the world.

Discrimination against American business men in some foreign countries.

Attempted breaking up of American efforts to run a successful merchant marine fleet.

**Through "Open Door."**

The cable question is now immediately before the state department and is understood to be at a point where officials believe the American open door policy in the orient is being threatened. Despite American insistence Japan clings to the cables entering into the island of Yap and to the island itself.

Another meeting of the delegates of the five powers who have been discussing disposition of the former German cables was scheduled today, but unless an agreement is reached soon it was said to be probable that the delegates to the present conference, which was preliminary to a world communications conference, would go home without settling status of the ex-German cables. In that event those cables would remain in the hands of Japan, France and Great Britain until the question was reopened.

**WAR ON CRIME.**

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 11.—The city's 1,100 police were out on 12 instead of eight-hour shifts today in an effort to check the crime wave sweeping St. Louis. The new system will remain in effect until a decrease in crime is brought about, it was explained.

TRAIL OF CLARA GROWS COLDER AS HUNT GOES ON

Too Much Credence Given to Story That Woman Would Surrender.

Dallas, Texas, Dec. 11.—(United Press.)—Clara Smith Hamon, wanted on a charge of murder in connection with the death of Jake L. Hamon, is within 40 miles of Ardmore, Okla., according to information Sheriff Dan Harston claimed to be in possession of today.

Harston refused to explain the nature of his information. He notified Ardmore authorities of what he had learned, however, it became known.

Ardmore, Okla., Dec. 11.—(By United Press.)—Clara Smith Hamon, sought on a charge of murder in connection with the death of Jake L. Hamon, Oklahoma millionaire and politician, is either in the west Texas oil fields or in Mexico, according to the belief expressed today by Russell Brown, county attorney.

Brown was inclined to discredit reports that the woman intends to surrender and intimated that "forces" that do not want her apprehended "are seeking to create a 'false trail'."

"If the woman was in Juarez, when El Paso authorities said she was, it would be very hard for her to have crossed the border again, inasmuch as immigration officials and consular agents were on the watch for her," said Brown, commenting on the insistent reports that she will surrender either through Fort Worth attorneys or to Ardmore officials.

The Carter county attorney pointed out that the west Texas oil fields, where the woman has been hiding, would be a logical place for her to hide.

"On account of her knowledge of the oil country and the many people who would probably give her refuge, it would be the hardest kind of a thing to locate her there without employing a great number of men."

"Certain people connected with the case here seemed to me to evince just a little too much credence in the reports the girl would surrender," Brown said in commenting on the "false trail" theory.

Brown said he tried to learn of the source of information possessed by Fort Worth individuals who started reports that Clara Smith Hamon would surrender, without avail.

He declared he had heard nothing further from El Paso after wiring the warrant which Sheriff Orendorff there demanded, and said it was apparent the trail there had grown "cold," for the time being at least.

**Mr. Hamon in Chicago.**

Chicago, Dec. 11.—Mrs. Jake L. Hamon, widow of the slain Oklahoma millionaire, with her daughter, has returned to her home here, it became known today. Mrs. Hamon refused to be interviewed and her apartment is guarded by two detectives.

DISARMING OF NATIONS ADVOCATED

Committee of League of Nations Favors Three Stages in Process.

Washington, Dec. 11.—A resolution requesting President Wilson to appoint an American representative to meet with the League of Nations commission, considering disarmament, was presented and advocated in the senate today by Senator Walsh, Democrat, Montana.

Geneva, Dec. 11.—(By the Associated Press.)—Japan can not reduce her armaments as long as the United States is increasing hers, Viscount Kikujiro Ishii, of the Japanese delegation declared at a meeting of the armaments committee this afternoon when the question of disarmament was under discussion.

Geneva, Dec. 11.—(Associated Press.)—Disarmament in three stages, is the substance of the recommendation the committee on armaments of the League of Nations assembly will make to the assembly as the result of its deliberations.

The first stage would be marked by an agreement among the powers to make no further increases in armaments.

The second stage of the recommended procedure is a gradual reduction in armaments.

The third stage would be that of general complete disarmament, except insofar as arms were needed for police purposes.

M. Doret, delegate from Haiti, succeeded in securing the adoption by the committee this morning of an amendment providing that the council of the league inaugurate a propaganda campaign for "disarmament winds," as he put it, meaning the preparation of the younger generation for the new order of things by proper education in the schools.

Geneva, Dec. 11.—(Associated Press.)—Conditional acceptance by Holland of the invitation of the League of Nations to contribute a portion of the military force to be sent by the league to the Vilna district for the plebiscite there was announced today. Acceptance is subject to passage of suitable legislation by the Dutch parliament.

Poland has sent a note to the council of the league requesting the fortress and fortified zone of Grodno be excluded from the Vilna plebiscite area.

Committees of the assembly of the League of Nations were called into session this morning, and the meeting of the assembly was deferred until 4 o'clock today. It was anticipated that when the assembly met, decision would be reached as to the manner of choosing the four elective members of the council of the league.

It has been decided by the commission on technical organization, to send the United States a special invitation to name a member of the international advisory committee which will study the question of the opium traffic. The commission will also carry out provisions relating to the opium traffic which were embodied in the Versailles treaty.

**Find Solution.**

Members of the international court committee have found what they hope to be a solution of the jurisdiction problem that will satisfy those who have objected to this feature of the proposed international court. They have inserted a clause into the proposed plan which would provide that a state which is desirous of an arrangement by which an offender before the tribunal, may signify its acceptance of the provision for obligatory jurisdiction. The clause would further stipulate that this obligatory jurisdiction would become reciprocal binding upon all those nations which would signify their acceptance.

This is far from meeting the original demands of some states, but hope is expressed that the example furnished by the first nations to accept the clause will be a moral force strong enough to oblige others to follow a similar course.

GREEK CRUISER AND WARSHIPS TO ESCORT KING

Constantine to Be Received at Venice—Pro-Germans Barred.

Lucerne, Switzerland, Dec. 11.—(By the Associated Press.)—Official notification of the result of the plebiscite in Greece, and an invitation to return to Athens and ascend the Greek throne immediately, were received by former King Constantine this morning.

The Greek government notified Constantine it will have a Greek cruiser and an escort of warships to receive him and his family at Venice on Wednesday.

The royal family will leave Lucerne on an ordinary train probably Monday.

Professor Georgios Streit, former minister and Constantine's chief advisor during his exile, who is reported to be pro-German, and Captain Stefan Paparigopoulos, commandant in the Greek navy and Constantine's aide de camp, are prohibited from returning to Greece by the Greek government in the telegram inviting Constantine to return.

**Sails for Venice.**

Athens, Dec. 11.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Greek battleship Averoff, commanded by Admiral Botzis, left Piraeus last evening for Venice, accompanied by a number of smaller vessels.

Speculation in foreign exchange has stopped temporarily, but the drachma is quoted as 14 to one dollar. It is planned to draw the balance of Greek credits in America to meet the present difficulties facing the government.

Three hundred members of the Greek staff who were appointed during the regime of former Premier Venizelos, have been superseded by royalist officers.

**MURDER TRIAL NEARLY ENDED**

Marion, Ill., Dec. 11.—The trial of Settimo de Santis, charged with murder in the first degree for the death of Amiel Calcaterra, 14 years old, and Tony Hemphill, 17, last August, was in the closing stages today.

Final argument was to be made by counsel for the defense as court convened this morning, and early submission of the case to the jury was in prospect.

The state holds that Frank Bianca, who committed suicide yesterday, and de Santis plotted the death of Calcaterra and that Hemphill was killed to hide the murder.

**WILL DECREASE LAKE DANGERS**

Chain of Automatic Wireless Stations Will Serve to Minimize Perils of Navigation.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—Through the establishment of a chain of automatic wireless stations at danger points along the Great Lakes by the federal government, dangers of lake navigation will be minimized by wireless communication with skippers day and night, it was learned today.

When ships are blown near dangerous reefs and shoals, their skippers will be warned by means of automatic danger signals sent out at a point that it can be caught by the wireless mast of any vessel and they will be directed to safer channels.

With the Great Lakes states as a basis, the bureau of navigation plans to build ten direction finding stations at a cost of \$15,000 each.

**MAY BELONG TO EDGEWOOD BANK**

Contents of Burlap Sack Left in Freight Car Thought to Be Part of Bandit's Loot.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—Securities, wills, civil war discharges, deeds and many other valuable documents found in a burlap sack in a freight car by employees of a firm of wholesale leather dealers, were being held by the company today for officials of Edgewood, Ill., to identify as part of valuables taken by bandits who robbed a State bank there more than a month ago.

The bag containing the papers came to the Wilder Company in a car loaded with leather from East St. Louis.

The bank at Edgewood was raided by bandits and the safe deposit vaults were broken into and their contents taken in connection with \$100,000 in cash and Liberty bonds.

POLICE WOUND ONE MAN OF TRIO ARRESTED AS ESCAPE IS ATTEMPTED

200 KILLED BY EARTHQUAKE IN SOUTH ALBANIA

15,000 Homeless As Result of Violent Shock—Villages Destroyed.

Rome, Dec. 11.—All the villages in the Tepeleni district, southern Albania, have been destroyed by a violent earthquake, according to an Avlona message to the Tempo today. Two hundred persons are reported killed, while 15,000 have been made homeless.

The town of Tepeleni itself was completely razed.

The message reports the shocks are continuing.

(Previous message originating in Avlona, on Dec. 5, reported earthquake shocks in the Tepeleni district, rendering thousands homeless but made no mention of casualties).

**JURY ACQUITS FIVE OF CHARGE**

Alleged Plotters of "Diamond Special" Wreck Found Not Guilty—Still Face Trial.

Springfield, Ill., Dec. 11.—Five foreigners charged with plotting to wreck the "Diamond Special" train of the Illinois Central railroad, near here last September, were this morning found not guilty of "conspiracy to kill and commit murder." They will be tried on the four other charges.

The verdict was returned after nine hours' deliberation. It was given notwithstanding the fact that two members of the alleged gang had confessed and are serving terms in the penitentiary, and that a secret service man who had lived among the conspirators, and one of their own number who had turned state's evidence, testified as to the criminal intent of the plotters.

Their plot, according to the confession obtained, was to plunge the "Diamond Special" over a 60-foot embankment at Sangamon river, and then to rob all passengers and to kill all who survived. The alleged plotters were all rounded up before the time for the wreck. Necessity of such a premature arrest spoiled the state's best case of "conspiracy."

Other charges remaining against them are—conspiracy to rob; conspiracy to destroy railroad property; conspiracy to commit a felony and having explosives in their possession with intent to destroy life and property.

The five prisoners on trial are Joseph Quinigan, George Kernoski, Joe Denat, Joseph Kersnick and Tony Agurka.

**SUSPEND NEGOTIATIONS.**

Rome, Dec. 11.—Official or semi-official negotiations between the regency of Quarnere at Fiume and the Italian government will not be held as long as naval and military pressure is maintained against the frontier around Fiume, says an official statement issued at the headquarters of Captain Gabriel d'Annunzio in that city.

**THE WEATHER**

Generally fair tonight and Sunday. Increasing cloudiness, becoming unsettled. Moderate temperatures, with the lowest tonight near freezing.

Highest yesterday, 40. Lowest last night, 34.

12 m. 7 p.m. 7 a.m. yesterday, today

Dry bulb temp. . . . 38 36 36

Wet bulb temp. . . . 34 34 33

Rel. humidity . . . 63 60 77

River stage, 2.6; a rise of 1 in last 24 hours.

**River Forecast.**

Only slight changes in the Mississippi will occur from Clinton to Muscatine.

J. M. SHERIER, Meteorologist.

**MORE SHOPPING DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS**

London Press Comment.

"If martial law is properly enforced it will result merely in limiting the license of the troops," the Daily News said.

The Daily Express "welcomes the policy of Lloyd George, who spoke for the nation when he said that peace and friendship would be established after the laws are vindicated."

"It is a step in the right direction," said the Daily Mail. "Martial law, however, will be tolerated only if full particulars of death sentences are published. British public opinion will watch this closely."

**DEATH OF DODGE.**

Palm Beach, Fla., Dec. 11.—Horace E. Dodge, millionaire automobile manufacturer, died here at his winter home.

BLUE LAWS HIT IN BAY STATE

Eleven Out of 21 Massachusetts Towns Vote Down Measure Adopting Gloomy Sunday.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 11.—Returns yesterday disclosed that 18 of 21 cities on Tuesday voted in favor of boxing and Sunday sports referendums. Springfield defeated the boxing proposition, but accepted Sunday sports. Newburyport did the reverse. Cities which favored both propositions were Brockton, Cambridge, Chicopee, Fall River, Fitchburg, Gloucester, Haverhill, Holyoke, Leominster, Marlboro, New Bedford, Northampton, Peabody, Pittsfield, Quincy, Salem and Taunton.

Boston will have an opportunity to vote on the same propositions next Tuesday.

**IN PRODUCER'S HANDS.**

Washington, Dec. 11.—A large part of the abundant fruit and vegetable crops is still in the hands of the producer, or stored at country shipping points, says the department of agriculture's weekly report.

SEIZE SUSPECT AT KANSAS CITY

Three Men Now Involved in Murder of Kansas City Society Girl By Robbers Last October.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 11.—A man who police suspect of having been involved in the killing of Miss Florence Barton, a Kansas City society woman, who was shot to death by robbers the night of Oct. 2, was arrested here last night. He is being held for investigation.

Daniel Chester, recently returned to Kansas City from Great Falls, Mont., is now facing a murder charge in connection with the shooting. A third man suspected of implication is in jail at St. Joseph, Mo.

**BIANCHI MUST EXPLAIN CALL**

Washington Requires Guatemalan Minister to Assign Reason for Visit to Senator Moses.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Dr. Julio Bianchi, Guatemalan minister to the United States, will be asked, it was said today at the state department, for an explanation of his call yesterday on Senator Moses of New Hampshire, to discuss the senator's resolution calling on the department for information as to the detention of former President Cabrera by the present government authorities in Guatemala.

The minister's action was said by department officers to have been without precedent and in violation of diplomatic usages and international courtesy. It was intimated, however, that the department would not go so far as to ask for the minister's recall as a result of the incident.

"What's the Matter With the Darn Thing Now?"

This is what thousands of people say when the gas engine stops.

The problem has come to worry so many of the citizens of the United States that the government has prepared and printed a bulletin of practical hints on the care of this steed of the 20th century.

It is a primer to him who operates a machine, told in simple language of the uninitiated. It may, however, contain a hint here and there to the man who is motor-wise.

It is FREE at our Washington Information Bureau, and its distribution is a part of the service we render to our readers.

Frederic J. Haskin, Director, The Rock Island Argus Information Bureau, Washington, D. C.

I enclose herewith two cents in stamps for a return postage on a free copy of the Motor Book.

Name .....

Street .....

City .....

State .....

INKS AND WIFE IN AUTO CRASH

Chicago, Dec. 11.—Merle B. Inks and his wife, formerly Irene McAuliffe, who figured in the alleged theft of a large sum of money from the Franklin Park (Ill.) postoffice, where Mrs. Inks was postmistress, were seriously injured early today when an automobile in which they were riding was struck at a railroad crossing near Franklin Park.

W. J. McAuliffe and Mrs. Callery, relatives of Mrs. Inks, were with the couple and were also injured.